

RESOLUTION No. 508

**SUPPORT FOR THE IICA/FAO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN
FULFILMENT OF RESOLUTION IICA/JIA/RES. 501 (XVIII-O/15)**

The INTER-AMERICAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE (IABA), at its Nineteenth Regular Meeting,

HAVING SEEN:

The documents prepared by the General Directorate of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in fulfilment of the mandates contained in Resolutions IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15) and IICA/CE/Res. 615 (XXXVI-O/16), and

The presentations by the General Directorate on the new memorandum of understanding between IICA and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), to be signed at this meeting of the IABA,

CONSIDERING:

That, at its Eighteenth Regular Meeting, via Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15), the IABA requested that the Executive Committee “submit to the next meeting of the IABA proposals for the financial strengthening and strategic restructuring of the Institute”;

That this resolution was motivated by the Institute’s need to identify new financial and administrative modalities that would enable it to effectively address the formidable challenges facing the agri-food sector using limited resources;

That, in compliance with Resolution IICA/JIA/Res. 501 (XVIII-O/15), the Executive Committee, via Resolution IICA/CE/Res. 615 (XXXVI-O/16), requested that the Director General of the Institute undertake a study to examine the possibility of establishing “a strengthened alliance between IICA and FAO in order to eliminate duplication, promote savings in the implementation of activities, and make better use of the resources allocated by the Member States to both organizations”;

That, in response to this mandate, the Director General submitted the study requested to the Executive Committee and the IABA;

That, as a result of this study, IICA and FAO have negotiated a new memorandum of understanding based on their respective mandates that takes into account regional challenges,

especially those related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in order to intensify joint cooperation actions; and,

That, at its extraordinary meeting held on 24 October 2017, the Executive Committee expressed its support for the new memorandum of understanding between IICA and FAO, and pledged to support its implementation,

RESOLVES:

1. To support the efforts undertaken by the General Directorate of IICA to strengthen its cooperative relationship with FAO, as well as to congratulate the Director General on his efforts to establish a new memorandum of understanding with FAO that seeks to improve and strengthen the cooperation mechanisms between both institutions by means of a joint program work, for the benefit of Latin American and Caribbean countries.
2. To request that the Director General proceed immediately with the operational implementation of the memorandum of understanding, including, among other aspects, areas and modalities for cooperation at the regional and national levels as well as mechanisms for joint work and financing.
3. To task the Director General with informing the Executive Committee, at its next meeting, on progress achieved in strengthening the cooperation between IICA and FAO, in accordance with the provisions of the memorandum of understanding and the present resolution.